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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**FELON STOPPED BY MT. VERNON POLICE SENTENCED
FOR POSSESSION OF A FIREARM**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that CHARLES J. WILLIAMS, 26, of Mt. Vernon, Indiana, was sentenced to 40 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge Richard L. Young following his guilty plea to two counts of felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Illinois State Police, the Posey County Sheriff's Department, and the Mt. Vernon Police Department.

WILLIAMS pleaded guilty to the two charges on September 5, 2003. According to facts presented in court, on September 19, 2002, Williams was stopped by a Mount Vernon

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patrol officer while driving a vehicle reported to have left the scene of a shooting in Illinois.

After the stop, Williams was searched and two loaded .45 caliber magazines were found in his pocket. Inside the vehicle, officers found a loaded .45 caliber pistol under the driver's seat.

Williams provided a statement to an Illinois State Police officer after his arrest. In this statement, Williams admitted that the .45 caliber pistol belonged to him and that he fired shots in New Haven, Illinois, during the early morning hours before his arrest.

Williams was on probation for possession of an altered handgun on September 19, 2002, after being sentenced to a term of greater than one year for the class C felony in Posey County, Indiana, on June 20, 2000. Under federal law, felons are not permitted to be in possession of a firearm or ammunition.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Todd S. Shellenbarger, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Young also imposed 3 years supervised release following WILLIAMS' imprisonment. WILLIAMS must undergo drug testing as a condition of the supervised release.

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